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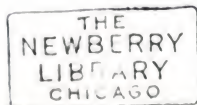
MANUAL  
OF THE  
Congregational Church,

BELCHERTOWN, MASS.

CONTAINING

An Historical Sketch of the Church, its Principles, Articles of Faith, Covenant, Rules and Catalogue.


COMPILED JANUARY, 1874.



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## HISTORICAL SKETCH.

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### I. ORGANIZATION AND HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

THIS church was organized, as nearly as can now be determined, in the spring of 1737. What is known respecting it, prior to February 26, 1756, is gathered from other sources than its records.

Samuel Bascom, Benjamin Stebbins and Aaron Lyman from Northampton, John Bardwell and Jonathan Graves of Hatfield, were pioneer settlers of the place. To these names the following persons must be added as the probable original male members of the church: John Smith, Ebenezer Bridgman, Moses Hannum, Eliakim Phelps, Joseph Bardwell, Nathaniel Dwight, Oliver Smith, Joseph Bridgman, Thomas Graves, Benjamin Billings, Stephen Crawfoot, Joseph King, and Robert Brown.

The subject of erecting a meeting-house was brought up in 1737. A year after, the building was ready for use, though not finished till 1746, and then "done in a manner suited to their embarrassed circumstances."

The house now occupied as a place of public worship was erected in 1789, the birth year of our Constitutional Republic, but it was not dedicated till September 12, 1792. In 1828, during Dr. Coleman's ministry, it was much enlarged, and the interior entirely reconstructed at an expense of over three thousand dollars. Again, in 1850, during the ministry of Dr. Wolcott, it was remodeled and better adapted to the wants of the minister and congregation. It was put into



its present condition in the summer of 1872, being reconstructed and refurnished at a cost of seven thousand dollars. It was rededicated September 12, 1872, on the eightieth anniversary of its first dedication. The exercises of the occasion included a sermon by the pastor, Rev. P. W. Lyman, an historical address by Rev. G. A. Oviatt, and dedicatory prayer by Rev. H. B. Blake, former pastors.

The Brainerd Church was organized September 30, 1834; between ninety and a hundred persons were then, or shortly after, dismissed from the First Church to constitute it. It continued a separate existence until August 31, 1841, when, with about a hundred and eighty members, it was reunited to the parent church, its pastor, Rev. G. A. Oviatt, becoming the pastor of the united people.

About 1680 persons have been members of this church since its organization.

## II. PASTORS.

The first pastor of this church was Rev. Edward Billing, a native of Sunderland, and a graduate of Harvard College. He accepted the call, in a letter dated February 22, 1739, and was probably ordained in April, 1739. He was dismissed in April, 1752. In 1754 he became the first pastor of the church in Greenfield, where he died about the year 1757.

Rev. Justus Forward, the second pastor, was born in Suffield, Ct., May 11, 1730; graduated from Yale College in 1754; taught school in Hatfield, where he studied theology; was licensed to preach in the fall of 1755, and was ordained February 25, 1756. He was sole pastor till March, 1812, when a colleague was settled. He died March 8, 1814, in the fifty-ninth year of his ministry, and the eighty-fourth year of his age, having followed to the





grave more than nine hundred of his people. During his ministry three hundred and eighty members were received into the church, of whom two hundred and ninety-four joined on profession of faith. Several revivals of religion occurred during his connection with the church—the most remarkable of which was in the years 1785–6.

Rev. Experience Porter, the third pastor, was a native of Lebanon, N. H.; graduated from Dartmouth College in 1803; was tutor in Middlebury College one year; studied theology with Rev. Asahel Hooker in Goshen, Ct.; was ordained over the church in Winchester, N. H., November 12, 1807, and settled over this church early in 1812. He retained his pastorate till March 9, 1825. During these thirteen years, four hundred and twenty-five persons were received into the church, three hundred and forty-five of them on profession. This number was about equal to the whole number added during the previous eighty years. Two remarkable revivals occurred during his ministry. In 1813, one hundred and seven persons were added to the church upon profession, and from the fall of 1818 through 1819, two hundred and eight persons united with it. Mr. Porter died August 25, 1828.

Rev. Lyman Coleman, the fourth pastor, was born in Middlefield, June 14, 1796; graduated at Yale College in 1817; taught three years in the Latin Grammar School at Hartford, Ct.; was a tutor in Yale College four years and a half. While there he studied theology, and was ordained here, October 19, 1825, and was dismissed in September, 1832, having received one hundred and seventy-eight persons into the church, of whom one hundred and thirty-three were upon profession of faith. Since his dismissal he has been Principal of Burr Seminary, Vermont, also of the English department of Phillips Academy in Andover, a teacher in Amherst, Mass., and Philadelphia, Pa., Professor of German in Prince-



ton College (from which he received the degree of D. D.,) and now of Ancient Languages in Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. He is the author of several valuable works upon Sacred Geography and subjects connected with Christian Antiquities.

Rev. Jared Reid, the fifth pastor, was born in Preston, Ct., February, 1788; graduated at Yale College, 1817; studied theology at Andover; licensed to preach, April, 1822; was settled in the ministry at Reading, November 20, 1823; dismissed in 1833; installed here, September 4, 1833; was dismissed here, January 6, 1841. He was afterwards at Tiverton, R. I.

Rev. George A. Oviatt, the sixth pastor, is a native of Bridgeport, Ct.; graduated at Yale College, 1835; where he also studied theology. He was ordained pastor of the Brainerd Church in this place, August 28, 1838; when (upon the resignation of Mr. Reid) the two churches were reunited, he was invited to become their pastor, and was installed over this church, August 31, 1841. He was dismissed July, 1845, and took the pastorate of the Suffolk Street Church, Boston; afterwards of the churches in Chicopee, Somers, Ct., and Talcotville, Ct., of which last he is at present the pastor.

Rev. John Clancey, the seventh pastor, graduated at Middlebury College, 1818; studied theology at Andover; settled in the ministry at Charlton, N. Y., twenty years. He was installed here February 25, 1846, and remained until March 27, 1849, when, having been dismissed, he returned to Charlton.

Rev. Samuel Wolcott, the eighth pastor, was born in what is now South Windsor, Ct., July 1813; graduated at Yale College in 1833; completed theological study at Andover in 1837. For two years afterward, he assisted the Secretary of the A. B. C. F. M. November 13, 1839, he was ordained,



and went to Syria as a missionary. He continued his labors in that region till January, 1843, when, on account of the death of his wife and the unsettled condition of affairs in Syria, he returned to America. In August, 1843, he became pastor of the church in Longmeadow, from which he was dismissed in December, 1847. He was installed over this church October 2, 1849, and dismissed March 29, 1853. At that time he became pastor of a church in Providence, R. I., where he remained six and a half years; then spent two years in connection with the New England Church, in Chicago, Ill. For the past twelve years he has been settled over a church in Cleveland, Ohio. A noteworthy revival visited the church during the first year of his ministry here, and one hundred more added to the church, eighty-nine on profession of faith.

Rev. Henry B. Blake, the ninth pastor, was born in Winchester Center, Ct., May 20, 1817; united with the church in 1832; graduated at Williams College in 1841; studied theology at East Windsor, Ct., and graduated in 1844. He was ordained at South Coventry, Ct., January 1, 1845; dismissed in May, 1855; installed here June 26, 1855, and dismissed at the end of ten years, June 26, 1865. He went to Wilmington, N. C., as an agent of the American Missionary Association, in 1868. He is at present Chairman of the County Board of Examiners and Superintendent of the City Schools in Wilmington, and is also employed in the training of colored preachers.

Rev. W. W. Woodworth, the tenth pastor, was born at Cromwell Ct., October 16, 1813; graduated at Yale College in 1838, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1841. He was pastor at Berlin, Ct., 1842-52; at Waterbury, Ct., 1852-58; stated supply at Mansfield, Ohio, 1858-60; at the Olivet Church, Springfield, 1860-62; at Plymouth,





1862-64; at Painesville, Ohio, 1864-66; pastor of this church, 1866-70. Since then he has been pastor at Grinnell, Iowa.

Rev. Payson W. Lyman, the present pastor, was born at Easthampton, February 28, 1842; graduated at Amherst College, 1867, and at Union Theological Seminary, New York, in 1870; ordained and installed over this church, May 10, 1871, having previously preached a short time in Ashfield.

### III. DEACONS.

The following persons have served the church in the office of deacon, since its organization :

John Smith, chosen 1737, died 1777.  
 Aaron Lyman, chosen 1737, died 1780.  
 Elijah Smith, chosen 1761, died 1770.  
 Joseph Bridgman, chosen 1770, died 1773.  
 Joseph Smith, chosen 1770, died 1803.  
 Edward Smith, chosen 1781, removed 1793.  
 Elijah Dwight, chosen 1793, died 1795.  
 Amasa Smith, chosen 1795, removed 1802.  
 Eliakim Phelps, chosen 1803, died 1824.  
 James Walker, chosen 1804, resigned 1827.  
 Oliver S. Taylor, chosen 1816, removed 1817.  
 Daniel Phelps, chosen 1816, resigned 1854.  
 John M. Spooner, chosen 1827, removed 1846.  
 Anson Moody, chosen 1827, removed 1829.  
 Henry A. Bridgman, chosen 1828, resigned 1850.  
 Israel Towne, chosen 1829, died 1853.  
 William Phelps, chosen 1838, resigned 1850.  
 Elisha Abbey, chosen 1841, died 1863.  
 Elijah Amidon, chosen 1841, resigned 1850.  
 Ephraim Montague, chosen 1850, resigned 1873.





Amasa Towne, chosen 1854, died 1871.

Wareham C. Gilbert, chosen 1854, died 1859.

Harrison Root, chosen 1859.

Lyman Sabin, chosen 1863.

Charles L. Washburn, chosen 1871.

Heman C. Moody, chosen 1871.

Tertius Cowles, chosen 1873.

At the time of the union of the two churches in 1841, Daniel Phelps, John M. Spooner, Israel Towne and Wm. Phelps were the officiating deacons in the First Church, and Henry A. Bridgman, Elijah Amidon and Elisha Abbey, in the Brainerd Church. After the union, they all officiated until 1850, when all resigned, and the church then chose Daniel Phelps, Israel Towne, Elisha Abbey and Ephraim Montague.

NOTE.—The authority for the history prior to 1852, is chiefly the "Historical Sketch" by Hon. Mark Doolittle.



# CONGREGATIONAL PRINCIPLES.

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COMPILED FROM EMINENT AUTHORITIES.

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## I. CONGREGATIONALISM.

CONGREGATIONALISM is a form of church order and government, rather than a system of doctrinal faith. The form is the democratic, in which all ecclesiastical power, under Christ, is vested in the associated brotherhood of each local church, as an independent body. At the same time it recognizes a fraternal and equal fellowship between these independent churches, which invests each with the right and duty of advice and reproof, and even of the public withdrawal of that fellowship, in case the course pursued by another of the sisterhood, should demand such action for the preservation of its own purity and consistency.

## II. THE CHURCH.

Any company of people believing, and publicly professing themselves to be Christians, associated, by voluntary compact, on gospel principles, for Christian work and worship, is a true Church of Christ. Every member of such church has equal essential rights, powers and privileges with every other, (except so far as it is fitting that some special abridgment be made in the case of female and youthful members,) and the membership together, by majority vote, have the right and duty of choosing all necessary officers; of admitting, dismissing and disciplining their own members; of forming their own creed,



according to their understanding of the Scriptures; of regulating the details of worship and business procedure, and of independency; i. e. each church has these powers, in and of itself, which it may exercise without responsibility to any ecclesiastical authority above itself. It is answerable directly and only to Christ its Head. And yet, each church ought gratefully and meekly to receive, and candidly and prayerfully to weigh advice and, if need be, admonition from its sister churches. Every such church, whatever may be the lowliness of its worldly estate, is on a level of inherent genuineness, dignity, and authority, with every other church on earth.

### III. CHURCH OFFICERS.

Church officers, according to the arrangement which the Apostles instituted in every church, are of two sorts, *Bishops* or *Elders* (now usually styled Pastors), and *Deacons*. Congregational churches intrust no ecclesiastical power to their officers. The original function of the bishop was to labor in word and doctrine, and to rule, i. e. to teach, and to preside in the assembly of the church. The function of the deacons is to assist in distributing the elements of the Lord's Supper; to attend to the secular business of the church; to visit the members, especially the sick, for the purpose of spiritual edification; and, in behalf of the church, to minister to the wants of the poor.

Besides these permanent officers, a church may designate any member or members, to any definite work in its behalf.

### IV. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS.

Members are removed from their visible connection with, and standing in the Christian church, by death, by suspension, and by excommunication.

Suspension deprives a member of all church privileges for





the time of its continuance. At the expiration of the time specified, should no further action be taken by the church, full church privileges revert to him, unless his suspension had been made operative "until he shall show penitence and ask to be restored," in which case it would continue until terminated by a vote of excommunication or restoration.

Excommunication cuts a member off ignominiously, from all relations of *privilege* to the church, while it would leave upon him all relations of *duty*, because his covenant with God still binds him, though he has forfeited his church privileges. He remains an *excommunicated church-member*; not a *non-church-member*. The church may at any time lift the sentence of excommunication from him, on his penitent confession; by which act, he would be restored to good and regular standing.

#### V. FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCHES.

Though the churches are equal and independent, yet a fraternal fellowship should be maintained, with affectionate carefulness for each other's soundness of doctrine and general welfare. When important matters are pending, or difficulties arise, it is not only competent, but desirable, that such churches shall in a fraternal manner advise each other; the advice, however, is not of the nature of authority. And if any church seems to the others, wrongfully to disregard their advice, they may revoke their existing fellowship with the offending church, until it returns to what seems to them to be the path of duty, though they can not control the action of the individual church.

#### VI. COUNCILS.

The advice of the churches is sought through a council. A council is a meeting of specially invited churches, by their





delegates, chosen for the occasion. The pastor of a church having been fully recognized as its presiding elder, is always expected to be one of its delegates. Yet in the council there is no distinction of authority between pastors and other delegates.

COUNCILS are called by churches, or by individuals, and are of two kinds, *mutual*, and *ex-parte*. The former is when both parties to the difficulty, or question, unite; the latter is one which is called by one of the parties, when every proper effort has failed to secure the calling of a mutual council.

No *ex-parte* council may proceed to consider the case before it, until it is satisfied that every reasonable effort to secure a mutual council has been made and has failed, and until it has offered itself as a mutual council to both parties, and been rejected as such. Councils are not *authoritative*, but *advisory* bodies. There is just so much force in their decision, as there is force in the *reason* of it. No council can act on any matter not mentioned in the letter missive, or remain in existence after adjournment at the close of business.

#### VII. PERMANENT ASSEMBLIES.

A CONFERENCE is an assembly of pastors and delegates, assembled, not like a council, on the special call of a sister church, for some isolated service toward light and peace, but in virtue of a constitution providing for periodical meetings for mutual prayer, communion, advice, and helpfulness.

AN ASSOCIATION is a meeting of pastors and other clergymen, in the aim to help each other in their common work. They have no direct connection with the churches. The licensing of candidates for the pulpit is generally referred to them.



## FORM OF ADMISSION TO THE CHURCH.

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As a Church of Jesus Christ, associated in accordance with the teachings of the New Testament, for the public worship of God, for the observance of Gospel Sacraments and Ordinances, for mutual edification and encouragement in the Christian life, and for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, we receive the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the only infallible rule of religious faith and practice. But for a condensed statement of the body of doctrine which we hold and teach, we set forth the following Articles of Doctrinal Belief, the same being, with slight alteration, those adopted by the Council of Congregational Churches held in Boston, in June, 1865.

### CONFESSION OF FAITH.

We confess our faith in the one living and true God, (*a*), revealed as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; (*b*), the Creator and Preserver of all things, (*c*), whose purposes and providence extend to all events, (*d*), and who exercises a righteous government over all his creatures, (*e*).

(*a*) Deut. vi. 4; 1 Cor. viii. 4; Isa. xlv. 22.

(*b*) Matt. xxviii. 19; 2 Cor. xiii. 14; John i. 1, x. 30; 1 Tim. iii. 16; Heb. i. 8; Phil. ii. 6; Col. ii. 9; Heb. xiii. 8; 1 John v. 20; Rom. ix. 5; Acts. xx. 28, v. 3, 4; John xv. 26.

(*c*) Heb. iii. 4; Is. xxiv. 24; Acts xvii. 24; Col. i. 16; Rev. iv. 11; Heb. i. 3; Ps. xxxvi. 6.

(*d*) Ps. cxxxv. 6; Eph. i. 11; Ps. cxv. 3; Jer. x. 23; Rom. xi. 36; Eph. i. 4, 5; Matt. vi. 26-30, x. 29; Prov. xvi. 9.

(*e*) Ps. xlvii. 2, ciii. 19.



We believe the Son to be Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word, who is exalted to be our Redeemer and King, (*f*;) and the Holy Ghost to be the Comforter, who is present in the church to regenerate and sanctify the soul, (*g*.) With the whole church, we confess the common sinfulness and ruin of our race, (*h*,) and acknowledge that it is only through the work accomplished by the life and expiatory death of Christ, that believers in him are justified before God, receive the remission of sins, (*i*,) and, through the presence and grace of the Holy Comforter, are delivered from the power of sin and perfected in holiness, (*j*.)

We also believe in the organized and visible church, (*k*,) in the ministry of the Word, (*l*,) in the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, (*m*,) in the resurrection of the body, (*n*,) and in final judgment, (*o*,) the issues of which are eternal life and everlasting punishment, (*p*.) We receive these truths on the testimony of God, given through Prophets and Apostles, in the life, the miracles, the death, the resurrection of his Son, our Divine Redeemer, a testimony preserved for

(*f*) John i. xiv. 29; Acts v. 31; 1 Cor. xv. 24, 25.

(*g*) John xv. 16, 17; Eph. iv. 30; 1 Peter i. 2.

(*h*) Rom. v. 12, 15-19; vii. 18; Ps. xiv. 1-3, li. 5; lviii. 3; Eph. ii. 3.

(*i*) Rom. v. 1; Gal. iii. 13; 1 Tim. ii. 6; Heb. ii. 10; Rev. v. 9; John iii. 16, 17; 1 Tim. i. 16; Rom. iii. 20-25; Heb. ix. 22; Acts iv. 12.

(*j*) 2 Thes. ii. 13; Titus iii. 5; Rom. v. 5.

(*k*) Matt. xvi. 18, xviii. 17; Acts ii. 47; 1 Cor. i. 2; 2 Cor. vi. 14-18.

(*l*) Acts xiv. 23, xx. 28; Titus i. 5; 1 Peter v. 1-3.

(*m*) Matt. xxvi. 26-30, xxviii. 19; Acts xvi. 33; 1 Cor. xi. 23, 26.

(*n*) Dan. xii. 2; Rom. viii. 11; 1 Cor. xv. 63; Phil. iii. 21; John v. 28, 29; Acts xxiv. 15.

(*o*) 2 Cor. v. 10; Eccl. xii. 14; Matt. xii. 36; Acts xvii. 31; Rom. xiv. 12; Heb. ix. 17.

(*p*) Matt. xix. 29, xxv. 34, 41, 46; Rom. ii. 6-9, vi. 22.





the church, in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, which were composed by holy men, as they were moved by the Holy Ghost, (q.)

Affirming now our belief that those who thus hold "one faith, one Lord, one baptism," together constitute the one Catholic church, the several households of which, though called by different names, are the one body of Christ, and that these members of his body are sacredly bound to keep "the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace," we declare that we will co-operate with all who hold these truths, (r.)

*Do you so confess and declare?*

[The ordinance of baptism, if required, is now to be administered.]

#### COVENANT.

Accepting this as your confession of faith, you, who now present yourselves to be received into the fellowship of this church, do, by this act, avow your personal sense of the love of God in the forgiveness of your sins; and, trusting that He who hears and answers prayer will uphold and strengthen you, you do, before God and this assembly, give yourself to the Lord Jesus Christ, to be his disciple, receiving Him as your only Priest and Propitiation, your great Teacher, Law-giver, and King; you dedicate yourself to God as the object of your highest love, and to his service as your highest joy; you consecrate your possessions to such uses as may be pleasing to Him; and you engage that, in reliance upon the aid of the Divine Spirit, you will aim continually to adorn your profession by a consistent Christian life.

(q) 2 Tim. iii. 16; 2 Peter i. 21; Gal. i. 11, 12; Is. viii. 20; John v. 39.

(r) Gal. iii. 29.





You do also now cordially join yourselves to this Church of Christ, and engage to submit to the regular administration of its government and discipline, to strive earnestly for its peace, edification and purity, and to walk with its members in Christian faithfulness, fellowship and love.

*Trusting in the grace of God, you thus covenant and engage.*

[The members of the church will here rise.]

In consequence of these professions and engagements, we, the members of this church, do now affectionately receive you to our communion, and, in the name of Christ, declare you entitled to its visible privileges; we welcome you to fellowship with us in the blessings of the gospel, and, on our part, engage to watch over you with Christian fidelity and tenderness, and seek your spiritual edification, imploring of the great Head of the church, that both you and we may be faithful to our covenant and glorify Him with the holiness that becometh his house forever.



## STANDING RULES.

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### I. MEETINGS.

#### I. STATED SERVICE.

THIS church will sustain, upon the Lord's Day, public worship and a Sabbath School.

Upon the evening of the Sabbath there shall be held a religious service of such character as the church shall prescribe.

The meeting of the church for prayer and conference, shall be held on the evening of each Friday, excepting that the meeting next preceding the first Sabbath of the month, shall be held in the afternoon.

A majority of the members voting at any business meeting shall be competent to change the time of this meeting.

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed on the first Sabbath of each alternate month, beginning with January. Upon the day preceding the administration of the Supper, shall be held a service preparatory to the reception of that ordinance.

#### II. MEETINGS FOR BUSINESS.

All meetings for business shall be opened by prayer. The pastor of the church shall be its Standing Moderator. In his absence, as in any case where he may become a party in interest to church action, the senior deacon, or some other specially appointed, shall be Moderator, pro-tempore.

Ordinary routine business may be done at any regular



service of the church. Of any business, requiring special attention, previous notice shall be given from the pulpit on the Sabbath.

Special business meetings *may* be called by the pastor and deacons, and *shall* be called upon the written application of five members to the pastor, or in his absence, to the senior deacon.

The annual meeting of the church shall be held on the first Monday in January.

## II. OFFICERS.

### I. PERMANENT OFFICERS.

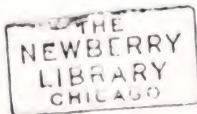
The permanent officers shall be a *Pastor* and *Deacons*.

At each annual meeting one deacon is to be chosen for the term of five years. The four last chosen shall be the acting deacons. The senior shall serve as counselor and adviser.

### II. ANNUAL OFFICERS.

A *Clerk*, who shall keep the record of the church.

A *Prudential Committee*, of which the pastor and deacons shall be ex officio members. The number of brethren to be chosen shall be five. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine all applicants for admission to the church, and present to the church a report of the names of those whom they approve, any candidate whom they may not approve having the right of appeal to the whole church. They shall also act as a committee of preliminary inquiry in all cases of discipline, shall look after, and from time to time report the names of absent members, shall designate the objects to be brought before the church for its contribution, and from time to time examine the records and certify to their correctness.





A *Treasurer*, who shall take charge of all church funds and contributions for charitable purposes, and make a full written report of the same, at the annual meeting.

A *Committee* of three, for the nomination of delegates.

A *Superintendent* and other requisite officers, for the Sabbath school.

### III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The annual officers shall be chosen at the annual meeting, except those pertaining to the Sabbath school, who shall be chosen at the regular meeting, next but one, preceeding the anniversary.

All officers shall be chosen by ballot, and without any public nomination, unless a committee be appointed for that purpose.

### III. MEMBERS.

#### I. RULES OF ADMISSION.

Persons wishing to unite with this church on profession of their faith, must present themselves before the Prudential Committee for examination. The committee may, if they deem it best, require conference with such persons as desire admission on the recommendation of other churches. All candidates for admission shall be propounded before the church two weeks previous to their admission; a vote upon the question of their admission shall be taken at the preparatory lecture.

#### II. DISMISSIONS.

The church holds it the duty of members, taking up residence elsewhere, to remove their church relations also, within a limited time, or to communicate to the officers their reasons for not doing so.





Requests for letters of dismission may be announced upon the Sabbath, and if, at the end of two weeks, no objection has been made to the Clerk, he shall issue to the applicant the customary certificate, which shall be valid one year from date. It should be returned within that time if not used. In cases of long absence the church may require satisfactory evidence of correct deportment during the absence, before granting letters of recommendation.

### III. DISCIPLINE.

Since gospel discipline is indispensable to the purity and well-being of the church, this church declares that whenever any member of it knows cause of complaint against another member for disciplinable offences, Christian watchfulness requires him to make known the same to the church, through the Prudential Committee, in order that the offender may be properly dealt with and the offence removed; provided, however, if the offence be of a private nature, the complainant shall pursue the course prescribed in Matthew xviii. 15-17. If the Prudential Committee, in a private case, are unable to bring about a reconciliation, or in a public case are satisfied, after due inquiry, that there are wrongs existing that require discipline, they shall present a formal complaint to the church.

Any member accused before the church, shall be notified of the charge, and allowed a fair investigation and opportunity for making defense. While the trial is pending, the accused shall abstain from exercising the privileges of a member of the church.

An important object of discipline being the reclamation of the offender, the church will welcome evidence of penitence, and, being satisfied of it, will restore the member in the spirit of meekness. But if the wrong be proven, without repentance, the offender must be cut off from fellowship, unless the



case should be such that some less extreme procedure appears more in accordance with the laws of Christ.

No vote of censure shall be passed except by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of the voting members present at a regular meeting. In case of the excommunication of a member, public notice shall be given of the fact.

#### IV. EXPENSES.

Such of the current expenses and home charities of the church, as may not be provided for by the income of funds, shall be met by stated Sabbath collections.

#### V. AMENDMENTS.

No alteration shall be made in the foregoing rules, unless at a regular meeting, after notice of the proposed change at a previous regular meeting, and by will of two-thirds of the voting members present. By a unanimous vote a rule may be temporarily suspended.



# CATALOGUE

OF THE

## Officers and Members of the Church,

JANUARY, 1874.

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*Compliments of*

PASTOR.  
REV. PAYSON W. LYMAN.

### DEACONS.

HARRISON ROOT,	LYMAN SABIN,
CHARLES L. WASHBURN,	HEMAN E. MOODY,
TERTIUS COWLES.	

### MEMBERS.

The date of admission is opposite the name.

(l) Received by letter, otherwise by profession of faith.

The name in italics following the Christian name of a female was her maiden name.

The name in a parenthesis ( ) following the name of a female is, or was, the name of her husband; w signifies widow.

	<u>A</u>	
Abbey, George M.,	.	1850
Adams, Clara <i>Dwight</i> (w. Levi),	.	l 1865
Alden, Freeman,	.	1850
Alden, Thomas,	.	1850
Alden, Julia A. <i>Walker</i> (Thomas),	.	1850
Alden, Hattie E.,	.	1865
Allen, Beulah (w. Roswell),	.	l 1846
Allen, Lovisa <i>Sherman</i> (Samuel),	.	l 1858
Aldrich, Andrew W.,	.	1868





Aldrich, Clara J. <i>Dwight</i> (Andrew W.),	1867
Ayers, Harriet <i>Randall</i> (Galen),	1871
Ayres, Caroline,	1866

## B

Baggs, Ann <i>Alexander</i> (Amasa),	1871
Bardwell, Oromel,	1819
Bardwell, Antipas S.,	1853
Bardwell, Caroline C. <i>Sykes</i> (Antipas S.),	1853
Bardwell, Maria S.,	1860
Bartlett, Joab,	1831
Bartlett, Sophronia D.,	1850
Bartlett, Cyrus S.,	1830
Bartlett, Emily <i>Stebbins</i> (Cyrus S.),	1831
Bartlett, Addison H.,	1856
Bartlett, Violet I. <i>Bardwell</i> (Addison H.),	1864
Barton, Harriet L. <i>Taylor</i> (Marcus),	1873
Bassett, S. Lavinia,	1869
Billings, Clarissa <i>Cowles</i> (Austin),	1840
Bishop, Olive W. <i>Ramsdell</i> (Francis),	1857
Blackmer, Gardner D.,	1867
Blackmer, Eliza <i>Walker</i> (w. Jason),	1855
Blackmer, Lizzie A.,	1858
Blake, Rev. Henry B.,	1874
Blake, Mary R. <i>Wolcott</i> (Rev. H. B.),	1874
Blake, Henry W.,	1874
Blake, Flora,	1874
Blodgett, Alonzo C.,	1846
Blodgett, Ellen M.,	1856
Boyden, Israel,	1868
Boyden, Louisa <i>Ruggles</i> (Israel),	1868
Bridgman, Nancy C.,	1831
Bridgman, Clarissa <i>Washburn</i> (w. Henry),	1838
Bridgman, Emeline (w. Willard),	1852
Brown, Harriet W.,	1866
Brown, Josephine,	1873
Bruce, Dexter B.,	1860
Bruce, Emily A. <i>Russell</i> (Dexter B.),	1860
Bruce, Charles R.,	1871



Bruce, George H.,	1871
Burnett, Addison,	1845
Burnett, Bathsheba <i>Sanford</i> (Addison),	1843
Burnett, Bathie S.,	1871
Burnett, Mary A. <i>Cheney</i> (Enoch),	1873

## C

Chamberlain, William S.,	1871
Chamberlain, Nettie M. <i>Hunter</i> (Wm. S.),	1871
Chandler, Philander,	1865
Chandler, Myra <i>Keith</i> (Philander),	1865
Chandler, Minnie M.,	1869
Chandler, Susie E.,	1867
Chapman, Theodore W.,	1855
Chapman, Emeline <i>Walker</i> (Theo. W.),	1855
Clark, Jane M. <i>Ramsdell</i> (Amos),	1867
Cleaveland, Harriet S. M.,	1869
Cowles, Tertius,	1835
Cowles, Julia L. <i>Towne</i> (Tertius),	1834
Cowles, Samuel D.,	1863
Cowles, Sarah <i>Walker</i> (Samuel D.),	1850
Cowles, Jennie L.,	1867
Cowles, Israel T.,	1871
Cowles, William L.,	1871
Cowles, Martha <i>Sedgwick</i> (Angelo),	1867
Currier, Josephine M. <i>Haskell</i> (Ira),	1867

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## D

Dickinson, Charlotte <i>Bartlett</i> (w. John),	1852
Doolittle, Sarah T. <i>Raboteau</i> (w. Mark),	1818
Dorman, Asabel,	1843
Dorman, Adella H.,	1871
Dorman, Florence L.,	1872
Dudley, Emeline M. <i>Dunklee</i> (S. M.),	1852
Dunbar, Mary <i>Blood</i> (Charles),	1838
Dwight, Sophia A. <i>Cook</i> (Harrison),	1845
Dwight, Clara L.,	1858



## E

Edgarton, Mary A. <i>Hartwell</i> (w. Benjamin),	1872
Ely, Electa <i>Keyes</i> (John),	1859

## F

Ferry, Chloë W. <i>Sweetland</i> (Thomas),	1871
Ferry, Mary C. <i>Alden</i> (Arthur),	1865
Ferry, Lucy E.,	1863
Filer, Emily L.,	1867
Finley, Jacob W.,	1830
Finley, Esther <i>Williams</i> (Jacob),	1841
Fisher, Salem,	1813
French, Eliza R. <i>Dwight</i> (w. James),	1858

## G

Goodale, Mellicent <i>Woods</i> (w. Moses),	1838
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## H

Hall, Pennina,	1869
Hannum, Elizabeth <i>Robbins</i> (Elijah),	1834
Hannum, Martha M. <i>Dickinson</i> (w. Lyman),	1850
Hardacher, Harriet <i>Rider</i> ,	1868
Hawks, White H.,	1868
Hawks, Martha E. <i>Ayres</i> (White H.),	1868
Hazen, Clara F. <i>Dwight</i> (Dr.),	1856
Herrick, James F.,	1866
Hitchcock, Ephraim B.,	1850
Holland, Dorothy <i>Stebbins</i> (w. Luther),	1827
Holland, Horatio,	1860
Holland, Philenda C. <i>Woodworth</i> (Jonas),	1855
Hyde, Emily <i>Dorman</i> (w. George W.),	1871
Hyde, Mary E. <i>Jordan</i> (Cephas),	1871
Hunting, Adeline E. <i>Mason</i> , (———)	1864



## K

Keith, Mary E.,	.	.	.	.	.	1867
Keith, Emma D.,	.	.	.	.	.	1867
Keith, Jonathan E.,	.	.	.	.	.	1871
Kelley, Sarah A. <i>Bishop</i> (Simon),	.	.	.	.	.	1867
Knowlton, Agnes M., (———)	.	.	.	.	.	1873

## L

Leach, Marcia <i>Jepson</i> (w. Jefferson),	.	.	.	.	1850
Leach, Mary E.,	.	.	.	.	1850
Lemon, Emma,	.	.	.	.	1871
Lightburn, Louise,	.	.	.	.	1874
Longley, Maria D. <i>Sabin</i> (Joshua G.),	.	.	.	.	1856
Longley, Katie E.,	.	.	.	.	1872
Lyman, Rev. Payson W.,	.	.	.	.	1871
Lyman, Carrie E. <i>Root</i> (Rev. P. W.),	.	.	.	.	1864

## M

McCoy, Samuel,	.	.	.	.	1869
McCoy, Caroline <i>Pratt</i> (Samuel),	.	.	.	.	1850
Mellen, Elizabeth D.,	.	.	.	.	1865
Montague, Ephraim,	.	.	.	.	1831
Montague, Laura <i>Sabin</i> (Ephraim),	.	.	.	.	1827
Montague, Elizabeth,	.	.	.	.	1843
Montague, Jane A. <i>Moody</i> (Harvey),	.	.	.	.	1843
Montague, John L.,	.	.	.	.	1856
Montague, Corinna J. <i>Alden</i> (John L.),	.	.	.	.	1872
Montague, Harlan P.,	.	.	.	.	1856
Moody, Heman E.,	.	.	.	.	1838
Moody, Sarah A. <i>King</i> (Heman E.),	.	.	.	.	1844
Moody, S. Adelaide,	.	.	.	.	1867
Morse, Lydia <i>Sibley</i> (w. Jason),	.	.	.	.	1852
Munsell, Sarah E. <i>Dwight</i> (Ambrose),	.	.	.	.	1867





## N

Nichols, Wilbur F.,	1871
Nye, Lucy (w. George),	1827

## O

Owen, Fannie <i>Bissell</i> (w. Ralph),	1818
Owen, Emma E.,	1871

## P

Pearl, Jennie A. <i>Dickinson</i> (w. Frank),	1872
Pease, Calvin H.,	1867
Pease, Phebe Atchinson (Calvin H.),	1867
Pease, Harriet <i>Bradford</i> (Vashni),	1869
Pepper, Simeon,	1819
Pepper, Pamela <i>King</i> (Simeon),	1843
Phelps, Rev. Frederick B.,	1864
Phelps, Sarah <i>Dickinson</i> (Rev. F. B.),	1865
Pratt, Elisha,	1850
Pratt, Fanny M.,	1850
Pratt, Sophronia <i>Arnold</i> (w. Warner),	1850
Preston, Jabez,	1858
Preston, Lydia <i>Gray</i> (Jabez),	1857

## R

Randall, Jerusha <i>Killburn</i> (w. Lemuel),	1850
Randall, Alonzo D.,	1850
Randall, Amy A. <i>Owen</i> (Alonzo D.),	1856
Randall, Ella A.,	1869
Randall, Charles L.,	1850
Randall, Fanny E.,	1850
Reynolds, Harvey F.,	1869
Reynolds, Ellen C. <i>Southwick</i> (Harvey F.),	1869
Rice, Lyman,	1850
Rice, Sophia <i>Rice</i> (Lyman),	1850



Rice, Mary A. D.,	1871
Rice, Frank G.,	1871
Robinson, Lizzie M. <i>Walker</i> (James L.),	1871
Root, Harrison,	1832
Root, Caroline <i>Holland</i> (Harrison),	1831
Root, Elihu,	1863
Root, Hattie M.,	1869
Root, Susie B.,	1871
Root, Eliza <i>Dwight</i> (w. Elihu),	1831
Ruggles, Mary <i>Hutchinson</i> (w. David),	l 1827

## S

Sabin, Thomas,	l 1814
Sabin, Lyman,	1835
Sabin, Lucy <i>Stebbins</i> (Lyman),	1831
Sabin, Laura S.,	1865
Sanford, Sarah E. <i>Cowles</i> (Mason),	l 1864
Searle, Bela P.,	l 1862
Searle, Juliet <i>Warner</i> (Bela P.),	l 1862
Searle, Maria I.,	l 1862
Searle, Charles B.,	1868
Searle, Susie T.,	1871
Searle, Anna J.,	1874
Shaw, Susanna <i>Dwight</i> (w. Mason),	1806
Shaw, Ansel C.,	l 1870
Shaw, Nancy <i>Burnett</i> (Ansel C.),	1856
Shaw, Horatio,	1867
Shumway, Betsey <i>Russell</i> (w. Eddy),	1832
Shumway, Mary C. <i>Holland</i> (w. John),	1838
Shumway, George N.,	1871
Shumway, Emma A.,	1869
Shumway, Carrie H.,	1872
Shumway, Mary L. <i>Pratt</i> (w. Charles),	1850
Shumway, Nettie,	1871
Shumway, Solomon,	1850
Shumway, Ellen <i>Warner</i> (Willard),	1850
Shumway, Harriet (w. Loren),	1870
Shumway, Rufus K.,	1868



Shumway, Eliza A. <i>Shumway</i> (Rufus K.),	1868
Shumway, George F.,	1868
Shumway, Mary M. <i>Works</i> (George F.),	1868
Shumway, Dwight F.,	1871
Shumway, Jennie F. <i>Baggs</i> (Dwight),	1869
Shumway, Charles E.,	1871
Shumway, Ora M. <i>Stevens</i> (Charles E.),	1871
Shewbrooks, Marcia A. <i>Works</i> (w. Henry),	1852
Sikes, Increase,	1858
Sikes, Clarissa <i>Sikes</i> (Increase),	1860
Sikes, Orrin,	1867
Sikes, Ellen <i>Pomeroy</i> (Orrin),	1867
Sikes, Laurilla M.,	1867
Sikes, Anna Maria,	1868
Slauter, Platt T.,	1850
Slauter, Emeline <i>Goodale</i> (Platt T.),	1856
Slauter, George T.,	1871
Smith, Eunice,	1855
Smith, Lyman,	1868
Smith, Olive M. <i>Wentworth</i> (Lyman),	1868
Smith, Emma L.,	1873
Smith, Loman A.,	1868
Smith, Emma J. <i>Goodell</i> (Loman A.),	1868
Southwick, Charles B.,	1863
Southwick, Angeline C. <i>Goodale</i> (Charles B.),	1856
Spears, Mariamne <i>Pepper</i> (John P.),	1853
Stacy, Alanson,	1827
Stearns, Henry,	1872
Stearns, Jeannette <i>Edgerton</i> (Henry),	1872
Stearns, Mary S.,	1872
Stebbins, Ely W.,	1850
Stebbins, Ardella <i>Cowles</i> (Ely W.),	1850
Stebbins, Frederick L.,	1871
Stebbins, Frank E.,	1871
Steverson, Samuel,	1869
Steverson, Mabel <i>Freeman</i> (Samuel),	1869
Strong, Adolphus,	1819
Strong, Maria <i>Filer</i> (Adolphus),	1826
Stoddard, Ortincia H. <i>Cowles</i> (Geo. A.),	1867





## T

Towne, Elizabeth B. <i>Smith</i> (w. Amasa),	1862
Towne, Sarah E.,	1850
Towne, Edward F.,	1850
Towne, Mary <i>Rice</i> (Edward F.),	1852
Tuthill, James H.,	1868
Tuthill, Annette D. <i>Randall</i> (James H.),	1856
Tenney, Carrie E. <i>Walker</i> (D. E.),	1869

## W

Walker, Esther S.,	1813
Walker, Mary <i>Whitman</i> (w. Hezekiah),	1818
Walker, Mary M.,	1850
Walker, James W.,	1871
Walker, Orrin,	1850
Walker, Mary <i>Sikes</i> (Orrin),	1827
Walker, Juliet E.,	1850
Walker, Myra G. (w. Gilbert),	1873
Walker, Oromel,	1855
Walker, Nora M.,	1869
Walker, Maria <i>Tower</i> (Rensselaer),	1849
Walker, Lucy,	1818
Walker, Lyman,	1830
Walker, Caroline <i>Stebbins</i> (Lyman),	1831
Walker, Hattie M.,	1871
Walker, Sarah E. <i>Rice</i> (w. Henry),	1871
Walker, Emery P.,	1850
Walker, Julia <i>Hanks</i> (Emery P.),	1856
Walker, Caroline <i>Walker</i> (Elijah),	1869
Walker, Juliet <i>Clark</i> (Harry),	1866
Walkley, Susan B. <i>Atkinson</i> (Selden),	1867
Ward, Almira,	1829
Warner, Charles L.,	1861
Warner, Sarah A. <i>Thompson</i> (Charles L.),	1861
Warner, Ella M.,	1868
Warner, Margaret S. <i>Towne</i> (Cutler),	1869
Warren, Jonas,	1869



Warren, Eliza <i>Northam</i> (Jonas), . . . . .	/ 1869
Washburn, Charles L., . . . . .	1842
Washburn, Susan A. <i>Warner</i> (Charles L.), . . . . .	/ 1867
Washburn, Mattie E., . . . . .	1874
Washburn, Fanny <i>Morse</i> (w. Franklin), . . . . .	/ 1864
Webber, Jonathan, . . . . .	/ 1857
Webber, Sarah <i>Sedgwick</i> (Jonathan), . . . . .	/ 1857
West, Marietta <i>Cady</i> (Howard), . . . . .	1873
Whitman, James, . . . . .	1827
Whitman, Mary <i>Webber</i> (James), . . . . .	1840
Whitman, Betsey <i>Pearl</i> (w. Marcus), . . . . .	1813
White, Wilbur F., . . . . .	1867
White, Orrilla C. <i>Shearer</i> (Wilbur F.), . . . . .	1867
White, Marie <i>Lesure</i> (Samuel), . . . . .	/ 1871
White, Ellen <i>Munn</i> (Abraham F.), . . . . .	1868
Williams, Dorothy P. (w. Jesse), . . . . .	/ 1849
Williams, Jesse M., . . . . .	1850
Williams, Emily J. <i>Powers</i> (Jesse M.), . . . . .	1850
Williams, Merrill E., . . . . .	1871
Williams, Frank S., . . . . .	1871
Willis, Isaac, . . . . .	1819
Winter, Dexter, . . . . .	/ 1871
Woods, Rebecca <i>Vining</i> (w. Joseph), . . . . .	1818
Woolworth, Nancy <i>French</i> (w. —), . . . . .	/ 1862
Wright, David, . . . . .	/ 1867
Wright, Abbie <i>Keith</i> (David), . . . . .	/ 1867
Wright, William H., . . . . .	1871

## RECAPITULATION.

Males, . . . . .	98
Females, . . . . .	198
Whole number, . . . . .	296

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